

OCT 5 1983

3400 Forest Pest Management

Vegetative Management Session: Pathology Input
Oregon Dunes Overlook

Forest Supervisor of Siuslaw NF

On September 13 to 15, Gregory M. Filip, Plant Pathologist from Forest Pest Management, Regional Office, visited the Oregon Dunes NRA. Purpose of the visit was to participate in a vegetative management session for the Oregon Dunes Overlook. Several people participated in the session, including Jim Olsen, Developed Sites Specialist from the RO; Jim Pollack, Head of Landscape Management from the RO; Cathy Grapel, Landscape Architect from the SO; Dick Lilja, Recreation Staff from the SO; and Terry Snyder, Landscape Architect from the NRA.

Oregon Dunes Overlook is a recently developed site intended primarily as a day use area. Several permanent structures, including viewing decks, a comfort station, a pump house, and a boardwalk are located on the site. The site is located in a stand of scattered old-growth Douglas-fir, sitka spruce, and shore pine that have been wind battered and are in a general state of decline. However, much of the site is occupied by vigorous spruce and pine regeneration and saplings. Nearly all of the old-growth and snags within striking distance of structures or roads were removed during site development.

Two planning areas within the site, designated the Island Unit and the Boardwalk Unit, are of concern regarding hazard trees. The Island Unit is surrounded by a parking lot and is adjacent to the boardwalk. Several old-growth Douglas-fir and sitka spruce are within the unit. Some pruning has been done to remove large, hazardous branches over the parking lot. At present, there are no trees requiring treatment because they are hazards. However, all trees within the unit should be monitored and treated if they die. Treatment could be either entire tree removal or dead trees could be cut at a height of 20 or 30 feet (depending on proximity to valuable targets) to form short snags and retain some of the character of the unit.

Only the area surrounding the boardwalk (Boardwalk Unit) has a tree requiring immediate treatment. A Douglas-fir (about 15 in. DBH) adjacent to the parking lot and boardwalk is dead. This snag is leaning toward the boardwalk. Should the tree fall, serious damage to the boardwalk and, possibly, to pedestrians on the boardwalk, could result. Complete tree removal would not alter the character of the site, since the snag is within a clump of living, old-growth spruces. Other trees in the unit should be monitored and treated when they die.

The proposed vegetative management plan recommends planting of both the Island and Boardwalk Units with spruce as future replacement trees for the old-growth trees.

If Forest Pest Management can be of further assistance, please contact us.

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GMFilip:mp 9-30-83